

LANCASTER HIGH

617 Normandy Road
Lancaster, SC 29720

GRADES 9-12 High School

ENROLLMENT 1,777 Students

PRINCIPAL Joseph C. Keenan 803-283-2001

SUPERINTENDENT Patricia K. Burns 803-286-6972

BOARD CHAIR Robert Folks 803-286-6972

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

AVERAGE

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent

Good

Average

Below Average

Unsatisfactory

5

14

10

3

2

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

BELOW AVERAGE

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

N/A

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Below Average	Unsatisfactory	N/A
2002	Average	Excellent	N/A
2003	Average	Below Average	N/A
2004			

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	Our School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Passed all 3 subtests	58.0	72.8	61.4	61.4	64.4	62.9
Passed 2 subtests	18.2	14.9	16.8	19.9	17.7	18.8
Passed 1 subtest	13.7	7.8	14.2	11.2	11.1	10.8
Passed no subtests	10.2	4.5	7.1	7.5	6.7	6.8

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2003		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Graduation Rate	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
All Students	294	89.8	271	12.2	354	65.5
Gender						
Male	133	88.7	122	15.6	164	60.4
Female	161	90.7	149	9.4	190	70.0
Race or Ethnic Group						
African American	129	81.4	125	1.6	175	54.3
Hispanic	1	I/S	1	I/S	4	I/S
White	164	97.0	145	21.4	175	78.3
Other	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Disability Status						
Non-speech disabilities	1	I/S	19	0.0	35	14.3
Students without disabilities	293	90.1	252	13.1	319	71.2
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-migrant	N/A	N/A	271	12.2	0	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English proficient	N/A	N/A	1	I/S	2	I/S
Non-LEP	292	89.7	270	12.2	351	66.1
Lunch Status						
Subsidized meals	97	85.6	102	4.9	152	54.6
Full-pay meals	195	91.8	169	16.6	202	73.8

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS

Percent of	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	12.2	9.3
Seniors who met the SAT requirement	12.2	9.5
Seniors who met the grade point average	53.5	46.8

*Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n= 1,777)				
Retention rate	0.1%	Down from 11.9%	9.7%	7.3%
Attendance rate	95.7%	No change	95.6%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	0.0%	No change	1.6%	5.1%
With disabilities other than speech	11.0%	Up from 10.4%	12.9%	12.2%
Older than usual for grade	10.1%	Up from 8.4%	11.2%	10.1%
Suspended or expelled	2.3%	Down from 3.6%	2.6%	2.3%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	9.5%	N/A	N/A	10.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual dropout rate	7.1%	Down from 9.4%	2.7%	2.7%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	0.0%	No change	4.5%	3.2%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	82	Up from 12	517	433
Students participating in worked-based experiences	30.1%	Down from 30.3%	27.6%	26.3%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	75.3%	Down from 82.4%	73.4%	74.9%
Career/technology completers placed	N/A	N/A	99.5%	99.5%

Teachers (n= 92)

Teachers with advanced degrees	47.8%	Down from 56.7%	46.2%	51.7%
Continuing contract teachers	82.6%	Up from 81.1%	80.1%	81.8%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	88.2%	Up from 87.7%	84.2%	85.1%
Teacher attendance rate	94.9%	Down from 96.6%	95.4%	95.8%
Average teacher salary	\$39,713	No change	\$39,888	\$40,303
Prof. development days/teacher	10.0 days	Up from 9.9 days	10.3 days	10.3 days

School

Principal's years at school	7.0	Up from 6.0	4.5	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	31.4 to 1	Up from 25.4 to 1	25.6 to 1	26.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.3%	Down from 91.1%	89.8%	90.1%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$4,695	Up 3.1%	\$6,261	\$6,279
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	63.1%	Up from 61.9%	56.5%	57.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	78.9%	Down from 91.4%	94.1%	87.8%
SACS accreditation	yes	N/A	yes	yes

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample
-----	----------------	-----	---------------	-----	--------------	-----	---------------------

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The mission of LHS is to assist students in becoming successful, well adjusted, contributing members of society by providing an atmosphere which encourages academic, vocational, and personal growth through a challenging curriculum in partnership with home and community. During the 2002-2003 school year, Lancaster High School was recognized with a Palmetto Gold Award by the South Carolina State Department of Education. The Palmetto Gold Award recognizes the state's schools with the highest levels of student academic achievement and the fastest rates of annual improvement. This award is certainly a tribute to our students, parents, and staff. Lancaster High continues to place emphasis on preparing students for standardized testing such as the SAT, ACT and Exit Exam. We are especially pleased with our efforts around the SAT where 128 seniors obtained an average score of 947. This is an increase of 66 points from last year's average. Recognizing our dropout rate as one of our most significant shortcomings, our school began an experimental program second semester to better address the academic and social needs of our ninth grade students. This program will be continued, expanded, and adjusted to increase the success of students entering high school. In addition, the school conducted a two week freshmen orientation session during the summer for all incoming freshmen. This program was well attended and received by students and parents. Following our concern to recognize the unique needs of our students, all of our faculty participated in staff development on working with and understanding children of poverty. Many teachers pursued individual staff development opportunities and all staff received training on the use of data analysis and reading instruction at the secondary level. Several of our teachers are currently working toward National Board Certification, and during the past year, three additional teachers received this recognition, giving our staff a total of five National Board Certified teachers. The school began and will continue for three years a substance abuse program focusing on the needs of students and families with tobacco and alcohol abuse. Even with our improvements and areas of distinction, LHS must continue to focus on helping students remain in school, developing social and personal responsibility among students, improving school-home relations, placing more emphasis on writing, reading, and critical thinking, and continuing our growth in math achievement. We invite everyone to be an integral part of LHS. There is so much to be done with our students. They need our support, time, and resources.

Joseph C. Keenan, Principal

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students	Parents
Number of surveys returned	82	272	103
Percent satisfied with learning environment	72.8%	74.7%	81.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	77.2%	79.3%	75.2%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	37.5%	80.3%	76.5%

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specified that the statewide target is met for all students and for each subgroup of students: racial/ethnic, economic, disability, limited English proficiency and migrant status.